

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/614,234

Examiner

Que T. Le

Applicant(s)

SCHOFIELD ET AL.

Art Unit

2878

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Preliminary amendment filed 7/7/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 61-97.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Que T. Le
Primary Examiner

This is in response to Applicants' amendment filed July 7, 2003.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The title of the invention has been changed to: "Light-responsive vehicle control such as an electro-optic rearview mirror system that is adaptive to vehicle configuration having a sensitivity selection".

In claim 61, on line 18, "signals" has been changed to "signal".

In claim 74, on line 5, "said" has been changed to "an". On lines 10-11, "the driver" has been changed to "a driver", and on line 26, "signals" has been changed to "signal".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach a vehicular electro-optic rearview mirror system, among other features, comprising: an interior rearview mirror assembly with an interior electro-optic mirror reflective element; at least one exterior rearview mirror assembly having an exterior electro-optic mirror reflective element; an ambient light detecting sensor; a glare detecting light sensor; and a control receiving the signals from the sensors and generating an interior mirror reflectance level signal that establishes a reflectance level of the interior mirror reflective element, generating an exterior mirror reflectance level signal establishes a reflectance level of the exterior mirror reflective element, and a

sensitivity selection for establishing a sensitivity level as a function of sensed light from at least one of the sensors, wherein at least one of the reflectance level signals being at least a function of the sensitivity level from the selection. The prior art also fails to teach a vehicular electro-optic rearview mirror system, among other features, comprising: an interior rearview mirror assembly having an interior electro-optic mirror reflective element; at least one exterior rearview mirror assembly with an exterior electro-optic mirror reflective element; at least one light sensor receiving light passed through the rearward-viewing rear window; and a control receiving an input from the sensor and generating an interior mirror reflectance level signal establishing a reflectance level of the interior mirror reflective element, and generating an exterior mirror reflectance level signal establishing a reflectance level of the exterior mirror reflective element, and including a sensitivity selection for establishing a sensitivity level as a function of sensed light from the sensor, wherein at least one of the reflectance level signals being at least a function of the sensitivity level from the sensitivity selection.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

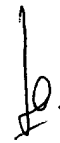
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

I) Gahan et al 4,793,690 disclose a rearview mirror control system having a control circuit automatically adjusts the sensitivity level of the mirror.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Que T. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2438.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David P. Porta, can be reached on (571) 272-2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Que T. Le

Primary Examiner